



PATENT  
450100-03143

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Yoichiro TAUCHI et al.  
Serial No.: 09/824,959  
Filed: April 3, 2001  
For: MAGNETIC-TAPE RECORDING APPARATUS,  
MAGNETIC-TAPE RECORDING METHOD,  
MAGNETIC-TAPE FORMAT, AND RECORDING  
MEDIUM  
Art Unit: 2651  
Conf. No.: 1879

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 30, 2004.

Bruno Polito, Reg. No. 38,580

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

December 30, 2004

Date of Signature

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (b)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of

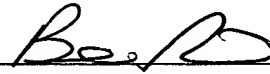
applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on November 17, 2004. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

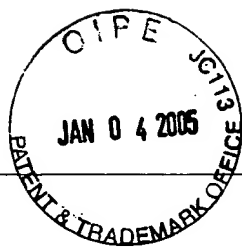
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Applicants

By:   
Bruno Polito  
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Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90)  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 450100-03143	SERIAL NO. 09/824,959
	APPLICANT Yoichiro TAUCHI et al.	
	FILING DATE April 3, 2001	GROUP 2651

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5 416 651	05/16/95	Uetake et al.			
	AB	6 658 195	12/02/03	Senshu et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL	EP 1 043 725	10/11/00	Europe			
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.